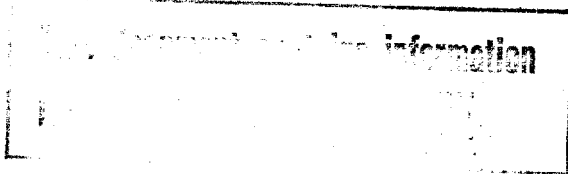


*Chrono*

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26 May 1958

MEMORANDUM FOR: Development Officer, DPS/DCI

THROUGH : Director of Development & Procurement, DPS/DCI

SUBJECT : B Camera Reliability

25X1A REFERENCES : A. CHAL-0073, dated 20 May 1958  
B. [REDACTED] 1397 (IN 39897) dated 22 May 1958

25X1A 1. I have noted with interest the report on camera reliability in Reference A and especially the comments in paragraph 5 on B camera performance. I believe you are already aware of my conversations on this matter with [REDACTED] and others during my visit to Detachment B some weeks ago.

2. Reference B is the report from Detachment B that was promised me when I left there. I have considerable confidence in the competence of the Hycon personnel now at Detachment B and have every reason to believe that their diagnosis of the cause of trouble is accurate. Moreover, their recommendation in paragraph 2.c. of Reference B, that a careful record be kept on all critical parts, impresses me as an eminently sensible one that will involve considerable record-keeping but cannot fail to enhance reliability.

25X1A 3. I note that Reference B was sent to our Headquarters without even an information copy to Hycon. In this connection, you should be aware that [REDACTED] specifically requested me to refrain from advising Hycon of their efforts to diagnose the cause of shutter failure until they had arrived at some conclusions and could submit a report such as that contained in Reference B. Their reason was their fear that the company would disapprove of an essentially R & D type of operation in the field. In deference to their request, I have had no discussion with Hycon personnel since my return.

**SECRET**

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4. Against the foregoing background, I believe the following steps are now in order:

a. First, I believe we should send the message along the general lines of the draft attached hereto to Detachment B. The draft is self-explanatory.

b. Unless the Detachment has made or prefers to make its own report direct to Hycon, the substance of Reference B should be passed along to Hycon with a request for their views.

c. Unless their reaction is negative, steps should be taken at once to comply with the recommendations in paragraphs 2. b. and 2. c. of Reference B -- i. e., the trip latch mechanism should be made a FAK item and spares supplied to the field and service records to components should be instituted.

d. Simultaneous with the action in 4. c. (above), Detachment C should be advised of the substance of Reference B.

5. If you concur, would you carry out the foregoing. If not, I would appreciate your comments.

SIGNED

**RICHARD M. BISSELL, JR.**  
Special Assistant to the Director  
for Planning and Development

Attachment:  
Draft Cable

RMB:ggs (24 May 1958)

Distribution:

- Copy 1 - Development Offr, DPS
- 2 - Dir of D&P, DPS
- 3 - Dir of Ops, DPS
- 4 - Deputy Director, DPS
- 5 - SA/PD/DCI Subj (FU)
- ✓ 6 - SA/PD/DCI CHAL Chrono

**SECRET**